WRITTEN ANSWERS TO STARRED QUESTIONS

Non-payment of dues of hospitals empanelled under CGHS by Government

*462. SHRI DARA SINGH:
SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that on account of non-payment, many hospitals in the capital are either refusing to be empanelled under Central Government Health Scheme or telling patients to pay upfront;

(b) whether it is a fact that CGHS owes Rs. 17,66,953 to AIIMS, Rs. 7 crore to Indraprastha Apollo Hospital, Rs. 3.5 crore to Max Healthcare, etc.;

(c) if so, what are the reasons therefor; and

(d) by when Government is expected to clear all such dues so that CGHS beneficiaries may not be put to any further hardships?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS): (a) to (d) No incident of refusal of treatment by private empanelled Hospital/diagnostic center for non-payment of dues has been reported to the Government. As a matter of fact there are stringent provisions for penalties in cases of empanelled hospitals refuse to provide treatment.

During 2007-08, an amount of Rs. 115.75 crore has been paid to private hospitals in Delhi.

In respect of Indraprastha Apollo Hospital, bills amounting to Rs. 8.68 crore were pending as on 1.4.2007 and during 2007-08, bills amounting to Rs. 73.00 lakhs were received. Payment of Rs. 7.38 crore has been released during 2007-08 leaving unpaid bills of Rs. 2.03 crore as on 1.4.2008.

In respect of Max Healthcare, Delhi, no bill was pending as on 1.4.2007 and during 2007-08, bills amounting to Rs. 3.80 crore were received. Payment of Rs. 2.34 crore has been released during 2007-08, leaving unpaid bills of Rs. 1.46 crore as on 1.4.2008.

Payment of bills of private empanelled hospitals & diagnostic centres is a continuous process and is subject to the availability of funds.

In respect of AIIMS, the outstanding amount is to the extent of Rs. 17.50 lakh, as on 1.4.2008. Out of this amount, bills amounting to Rs. 15.00 lakh were returned by the Pay & Accounts Office as the bills were not counter-signed by the authorized signatory of AIIMS. After the bills are countersigned by the authorized signatory, the payment will be released by the Pay & Accounts Office, Ministry of Health & Family Welfare.

Research contracts

*463. SHRI KALRAJ MISHRA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry awards research contracts to Consultants, NGOs, Academic and Research Organisations etc.;

(b) if so, the list of research contracts with the name of the organizations which were awarded the research contracts in the last three years and their progress;

(c) whether the research contracts are displayed on the website of his Ministry and if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) the internal process in deciding the topics of these research contracts;

(e) whether the research contracts were awarded through a competitive bidding process; and

(f) if so, the criteria adopted therefor and if not, the sanctity of the award process?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMDOSS): (a) to (f) The Ministry of Health & Family Welfare carries out research activities through the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR), an autonomous organization under this Ministry.

2. ICMR enters into collaborative arrangements wih other organizations including industry, International agencies, Government Departments and various public and private funded institutes in the areas of drug development, delivery techniques, diagnostics and devices, clinical trials etc. Funds on these researches are made available by these organizations and the technical expertise is given by ICMR.

A:-Industry-ICMR Collaboration

(i) The ICMR has a scheme undertaking research sponsored by Indian industry being implemented with the approval of Government of India.

(ii) In the scheme, the industry approaches ICMR with a specific proposal for taking up R&D on payment.

(iii) An agreement is entered into between the Industry and ICMR detailing the scope of work, budget, time-frame etc.

(iv) The ICMR seeks legal advice on the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) submitted by the industry.

(v) The funds are provided by the industry and the expertise is given by ICMR. Such projects are implemented after approval by the competent authority.

(vi) The duration of the project could vary from 1-5 years or more depending upon the project's aims and objectives.

B:- International Agency-ICMR Collaboration

(i) Collaborations between international agencies and ICMR, typically are initiated by Ministry of Health wherein R&D, clinical trial etc. for vaccines/drugs is envisaged as a need for India.

(ii) All such projects are entered into with international agencies like the WHO, only after approval of the Ministry of Health, Government of India.

(iii) In such projects, the agreements are approved by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare and implemented by the ICMR.

3(a) Apart from the above, ICMR also funds Biomedical research in medical colleges, research institutes, hospitals, academic institutes, voluntary organizations etc. in the form of Extramural Research.

3(b) Based on the National needs for disease control, ICMR initiates Task Force projects which are generally multicentric in nature. Experts from different institutes who are working in these areas are then invited to carry out research.

3(c) Investigators from academic and research institutes apply for research grants to ICMR in form of Ad-hoc research schemes and fellowships. The projects are reviewed by respective Project Review Committees headed by the subject experts.

4. ICMR also initiates Centers of excellence for advanced research, cancer registries and many such programmers.

5. ICMR also awards fellowships to young scientists. The selection takes place through a national level tests.

6. The ICMR website (http://www.icmr.nic.in) disseminates detailed information for each of its extramural programme including downloadable application forms. The extramural research projects can also be searched by subjects, institutes, scientist or title from the ICMR website. Graphical analysis of funding pattern of extramural research is also available on the website.

Delay in setting up of new AIIMS like institutions

†*464. SHRI RUDRA NARAYAN PANY:
SHRI MAHMOOD A. MADANI:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the reasons for delay in setting up new institutions on the lines of All India Institute of Medical Sciences;

(b) the details of projects undertaken, so far, institution-wise;

(c) the details of funds allocated to each institution during the last five years, along with the amounts spent out of it; and

(d) the steps being taken by Government for early setting up of these institutions?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMDOSS): (a) to (d) The proposal for setting up of AIIMS-like institutions was approved by CCEA on 16.3.2006. The bid process for selection of the Project Consultant for the entire project had been started in 2004-05. This continued in 2006 but proved to be unresponsive. The offer of shortlisted Architectural Design Consultant for preparing enlarged concept design was rejected due to the exorbitantly high price quoted by the selected designer. Therefore, the whole process had to be initiated de novo in December, 2006. Several methodological changes were made to ensure progress keeping in mind the complexity of building 6 such institutions simultaneously and lack of capacity for taking the whole project as one. Therefore, it was decided that each AIIMS site would be taken as a separate and independent project instead of clubbing all six together. The construction of housing complex was also separated from that of the Hospital and Medical College.

The Design-DPR consultants have been selected for each site through open competitive bidding and lay-out master plans for each site have been approved. Preliminary architectural designs for the sites at Bhopal, Jodhpur and Rishikesh have been approved on 22.4.2008 and other three are likely to be approved in May, 2008. The detailed project reports (DPR) would be ready by July-August, 2008. Thereafter, tenders would be invited for selection of contractor for civil construction work.

In so far as construction of residential complex (housing & hostel) is concerned, bids were invited for selection of turn-key Developers. However, bid process was successful only for Jodhpur site where work was awarded to M/s. Rajasthan State Road Development Corporation, a PSU of Government of Rajasthan and is in progress. The work relating to construction of residential complex at Rishikesh and Patna was entrusted to HLL and for Bhubaneswar and Raipur to HSCC. Concept plans for the residential complex at all the sites have been approved. Bids invited for selection of contractors for Bhubaneswar and Raipur sites by HSCC has turned unsuccessful due to exorbitant price quoted by bidders. It has been decided to re-tender for both the sites. Tenders for all the other 3 sites will be issued in May, 2008.

The work of residential complexes is likely to be completed by 2009-10 and the hospital-medical college complexes by 2010-11.

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† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.